File Oswald - Army Clearance

Dear Henry, Hurt

11/4/82

Re Robert Gary: I'll think it over before I write him. He may feel uneasy about your disclosing his name, even in confidence.

You make no mention of the third Oswald interest. My anonymous said that he and Oswald shot pool much and often.

When you interviewed him you had no reason to ask about any Oswald security clearance. I take it that Gary volunteered nothing about this.

If he was a lieutenant when Oswald was a private, the chances of their shooting pool together are, I think, slim, unless the line was more flexible in the Marines than in the Army. Also, I still have the impression that the man who phoned me was in some kind of business in connection with which he was going to be in Washington nine months later, to attend a convention. Gary is a lawyer. The reflection of the same interests, in chess and opera, without mention of LHO's, is not encouraging. I don't imagine that most of those Marines shared these interests and I do think that after all the Oswald publicity he'd have thought back. However, maybe I will write him after I've thought it over more.

If you have no need for your interviews, I'd sure like to be able to go over all of them and I appreciate the offer very much. I assume that what is to be confidential is marked that way.

I'm well aware of your problem, any writer's problem, in seeking information, advice and expertise from what is known as the critical community. This is one of the reasons I always try to find as much time as possible. Some of them have developed a dislike of me because I've disagreed with so many so often and when I could not avoid it, openly. Some have invented and come to believe strange things and even believe them. For the most part, I remain detached. When I come on something that can be of interest in the legitimate efforts some make, I inform them. Most of them are good people and intend well but are merely lost or wild. A few are not good and a few are self-seekers. Some of the wildest are also some of the nicest.

This also is an introduction to a caution, strong and Ruby and necessary re Tippit. Much of what has been alleged by some of the critics is without basis in fact, however reasonable their interpretations may appear. In both areas the major problem is the lack of any real investigation and with regard to Ruby, perhaps more withholdings. For example, the Ruby file does not appear to include his FCI file and I do not recall seeing any of the informant-contact forms in what was disclosed. I do have all that has been disclosed, if you know the serial numbers of any records you may want. I also have the Tippit personnel file, which was otiginally withheld. I don't remember anything of real significance in it.

As of now, almost any time you'd like to come is fine. If you plan to stay overnight, I'm sorry we really do not have adequate accomodations because the spare bedroom is my wife's office and remains cluttered. The best motels near here are the Holiday Inn and the Red Horse, adjacent and less than 10 minutes away. Both are so busy I'd recommend reservations.

Your kids are bright, witty and often delightfully subtle. If they have any further interest in the chick bit, they might want to look at ads in the farm publications. $1 per chick is quite high compared to what prices used to be, even though they used to be higher for quantities of less than 100. Mitchell may not have intended raising them eggs or meat. They might be a rare of fancy breed. Like the Aranauca (approx), a Chilean breed that lays blue eggs - what a deal for Easter. If those chicks wer sex sexed, that ism if Mitchell wanted pullets or females only, they could have cost twice as much as straight run, but even then, $1.00 still seems high. Anyway, we enjoy them, and my best wishes include them.

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